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7201T – Fall 2012

Wiki – 3 Assignment

**Problem:**

Living in a gendered society we learn that male and female are different in many aspects from anatomical to psychological. Whether based on scientific fact or socially created concept, the socially imposed stereotypes can and often do affect our children’s education. The problem I am exploring is that socially created stereotypes, such as “math is for boys” or “girls are not good at math,” are unconsciously and habitually reflected in educator’s instructions and affect female students’ attitude and achievement in mathematics. In order to attempt to create a change in the classroom, teachers should implement instructional strategies that will benefit both boys and girls. There are a number of approaches that can be undertaken, from differentiated instruction to single-gender education. My proposal for intervention is to change a learning environment in the classroom that eliminates competition based on gender, boys against girls, and facilitates co-ed cooperative and peer learning during mathematics instructions.

**Hypothesis:**

1. By creating teams of two (1 boy and 1 girl) during mathematics instruction for the duration of the whole day, twice a week, for the period of 10 weeks, in a classroom of 24 students in an elementary school of Brooklyn, NY, will improve girls’ attitudes toward mathematics.

2. By creating teams of two (1 boy and 1 girl) during mathematics instruction for the duration of the whole day, twice a week, for the period of 10 weeks, in a classroom of 24 students in an elementary school of Brooklyn, NY, will improve girls’ tests scores in mathematics.